

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 40-58 are pending in the present application. Claims 11-39 have been cancelled, claims 1-10 have been amended and claims 40-58 have been added by the present amendment.

Claims 1-10 have been amended to remove the reference numerals and to better correspond with U.S. claim drafting practice. Further, new claims 40-58 have been added to set forth the invention in a varying scope, and Applicant submits the new claims are supported by the originally filed specification.

Accordingly, an Action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

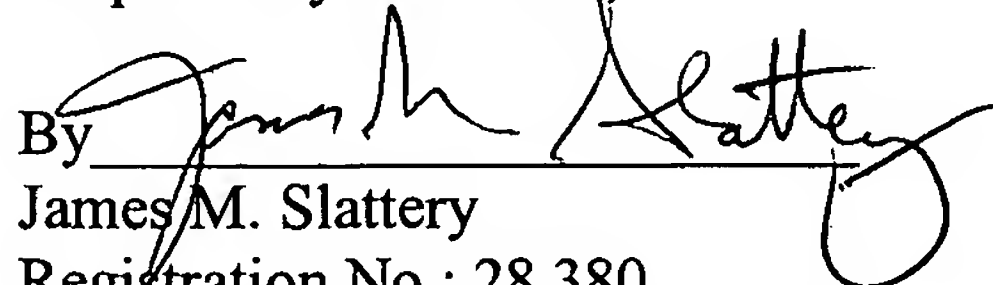
Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David A. Bilodeau (Reg. No. 42,325) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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